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Agricultural.

Sowing Grass.

At a late meeting of the Elmira, N. Y. Farmers Club, the following is reported by the *Husbandman* as having been said:

W. A. ARMSTRONG. There is no crop which our farmers feel more interest than in grass, especially since the discouragements that in late years have happened so frequently—drought, injury from insects, failure to secure good seed, and many other difficulties more or less discouraging. In the spring of 1882 I sowed a mixture of seeds prepared by Mr. Daniel Batchelor, of Utica, and if I may judge from present appearance the results indicate a surprising degree of success. I sowed at the same time orchard and meadow-oat grass seeds mixed, in a field, then seeded with oats. That year the growth of these grasses was very great. They stood almost as high as the oats at harvest time. I was greatly pleased, but I had not then sufficient basis upon which to form judgment of ultimate results, so I looked with a good deal of interest for the crop in the past summer. I was surprised to find it less in amount than the promise of the previous year seemed to justify. Neither kind had full development. There was but here and there a stalk bearing seed, and I feared that my experiment with these two grasses would be in the end disappointing. The crop was mowed early, and the land put to no use not a hoof upon the field until within the past few days. So I have had the opportunity to see what results might be had under favorable conditions. The grass is up now nearly knee high, and as thick as it can stand. The leaves are somewhat browned by frost, and I presume not palatable for cattle, because the growth is too rank. I have now reason to revise the opinion formed earlier in the season. If judgment must be formed upon present appearances, these grasses mixed are all that could be desired. Still I do not believe that two years experience are quite sufficient to determine value and I therefore report only what I see.

PRESIDENT McCANN: I sowed Mr. Batchelor's mixture last spring on wheat, the seed, six varieties, and I never had a finer catch in all my experience. It is impossible to say what kind of grass took most vigorous hold, or indeed to decide whether all grew or not. It is enough for me to know that the land was very thickly settled with grass, its growth so large that some of it fell down before the wheat harvest. As soon as I got the wheat off I turned on cattle, but they have not in all the time since succeeded in grazing it closely. The growth has been really surprising, and what is extremely pleasing is the character of seed, so thick that there is already assurance of a firm sod. As to the quality I am not prepared to decide. I have found cattle grazing on an adjoining piece seeded with clover and timothy, perhaps manifesting preference, but that may be explained by the ranker character of the new seeding. If grazing had begun earlier it might have been better, and perhaps the mixture of grasses would have been preferred.

Manuring Soils.

The object of applying manure is to feed plants. A new soil, if full of decomposed or decomposing vegetable matter, such as may be found in rich bottom lands all over the world, seems to possess all the elements required by our cultivated plants; but, by continued cropping, they in time become exhausted and cease to produce as formerly. Now, the question is: What do they become exhausted of? Chemists will tell us that certain mineral ingredients have been used, and that by applying so many pounds of these to the acre, fertility will again be restored. This, however, does not always happen; and when it does, its action is generally indirect, by assisting decomposition of other matters. The universal and time-honored remedy for a poor or worn out soil is animal manures, or rather, barnyard manure, which is nearly all organic matter. For hundreds of years this has kept up the fertility of lands, and is to-day the most popular of all manorial applications, as it unquestionably is the most valuable. Plants are built up mainly of gases, and these gases are the result of decomposing organic substances. Rich lands are simply lands in which this condition is present. They are more or less rich just in proportion to the quantity and quality of the decaying organic matter they contain, and any application which will increase rapidly decomposition will be termed manorial application, in the sense of furnishing available plant food.

But what are known as artificial manures are not to be ignored, although they may not form so complete a fertilizer as the barnyard manure. Many superphosphates, for example, contain several of the ingredients used by plants, the same as they find in barnyard manure, and their action is more immediate because they are in a more soluble condition than in the fresh manure from the barn. But this easy solubility may have its disadvantages. Experiments show that much of the manorial ingredients applied to soil becomes lost; that is, the soil loses applied ingredients to a greater

extent than they are appropriated by the plants. This loss is greatest when the manures are of the easiest solubility. Drainage, leaching, and soaking remove the soluble portion. Cultivation, which involves the stirring and exposure of the manures to the oxidizing influences of the atmosphere, also increases the tendencies to loss, because the soluble portions are carried off before the plants can appropriate them. This tends to show that manures may be too easily soluble, and that the most profitable fertilizing materials are those which gradually liberate soluble matters as needed, or at least, as they can be used by plants, and in this respect barnyard manure has greatly the advantage over most others.

As to Carp Culture.

One who is evidently experienced in fish culture, asserts that by attaching a pump, propelled by the wind, to a well, you can supply a basin from fifty to seventy-five feet in a diameter and six to eight feet deep, with water sufficient to raise several thousand carp, or other fish. The cost of this pond and appurtenances need not exceed fifty dollars. The bottom and sides need to be cemented thoroughly. When the basin is complete, place in it a small quantity of brush or floating weed. If you intend to raise carp, do not place other fish of a predatory character in the pond. The spawning will occur during the spring months, the female laying from 50,000 to 500,000 eggs. The eggs will adhere to whatever they touch, and will soon hatch. The green scum of a partially stagnant pond is fine food for the young fish. Mud in the bottom of the pond is beneficial. The fish will feed readily on kitchen-garden refuse, such as cabbage, leek, lettuce, hominy, or other substances. Water seldom becomes too warm for these fish. During freezing weather, they bury themselves in the mud at the bottom of the pond. While in this condition, they should not be disturbed.

For Fish Farmers.

Here is an item of encouragement to fish farmers. A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* states that in the spring and summer of last year J. H. Reape, near Sunman, Ind., constructed a stout dam across a marshy hollow fed by living springs, thus making a pond about eight feet in depth, and covering an area of about one and a half acre. In the fall he received, from the Indiana Fish Commissioner a few German carp, and last spring he got some more from a gentleman in or near Covington, Ky., none of the fish being more than three or four inches long. A few days since he caught, with a common hook and line, two fish measuring fourteen inches in length and weighing two and a half pounds each, and shortly afterwards he caught another still larger. At the present time his pond is swarming with thousands of young fishes.

Agricultural Department Reports.

Washington, D. C., November 12.—The November report of the Department of Agriculture gives the local yield per acre in the October final report. The "condition of corn, which averaged 78," was interpreted to mean product "close to 1,600,000,000 bushels." The average yield per acre appears 23.1 bushels 1 1/2 bushels lower than the yield of 1882. This gives a result practically identical with that of October. On acreage reported in July, 69,300,000, the exact figures would be 1,577,000,000 bushels. In revision of the season's returns this result will not be materially changed. The product will, therefore, be about 40,000,000 bushels short of the previous crop, notwithstanding the increase in the area.

The potato crop is large, amounting to 175,000,000 bushels.

A very great share of the corn crop remains in the field unhusked. The weather during October was so favorable for every kind of work that attention was given by preference to those kinds which demand pressed earlier in the season than the corn crop; hence the delay in husking, which may prove to be a mistake. While corn does not take much damage in the field, if left until snow comes the difficulties of gathering the ears is greatly increased. It is, therefore, advisable to attend to the husking as soon as practicable. The best opportunity occurs usually soon after the ears are suitably dried. Where there is plenty of barn and shed room unoccupied, it facilitates the work of husking to fill such space with the husked corn, for even in very bad, or very cold weather, husking can be done under shelter without much inconvenience. But there is a limit to such space, and the corn crop gathered from a large field cannot be easily stored, so it is well to use good weather to press husking in the field as fast as possible. Frosted corn will be very troublesome to save. The best use of it will be to feed it out freely to cattle and swine until the whole is exhausted. It will save hay and other fodder, as well as other grain, and will save disappointment also for if kept it is quite likely to depreciate in value.

—*Husbandman.*

Autumn is the best period of the year for manuring and improving land. If your land is already plowed spread your manure directly upon the furrows and in the spring it will be thoroughly decomposed and ready to work in. But if

your field be not already prepared, draw out the manure and dump it in heaps, so as to be handy when wanted. At this season of the year nothing is wasted from evaporation, as in summer. On the contrary every particle is returned to the soil by the process of atmospheric gravitation in a condensed form, and is more readily attracted by an open moist surface than when the land is left hard and unplowed.

Repeated experiments by intelligent men confirm the wisdom of this practice, especially strong and loamy soils that will absorb and retain the liquid manure as it leaches into the ground during the winter snows and rains. In the fall time is plenty for this work, help cheap, and teams in good condition. It put on in the fall, a much less amount of manure will be required for an acre of corn, and still better for the grass which is to follow, from being more evenly spread, and the land more thoroughly worked than if all these operations were delayed until spring.

We are informed that a resident of this city has sold five crops of alfalfa this year from about a fourth of an acre of ground for \$12. per crop. What could prove more profitable than this. There is constant demand for good hay and producing it on a large scale would equally as well. All sorts of country produce command high figures. There are many tracts of land near Chihuahua susceptible of a high degree of cultivation, and easily worked. The industrious farmers can find as profitable employment here as anywhere. Land can be leased or bought. Cultivation with suitable implements would give an enormous return and a ready market awaits the product. With the development of our mining interests the demand will grow. Now is the time to prepare for the coming year, and here is the place to raise carp, do not place other fish of a predatory character in the pond. The spawning will occur during the spring months, the female laying from 50,000 to 500,000 eggs. The eggs will adhere to whatever they touch, and will soon hatch. The green scum of a partially stagnant pond is fine food for the young fish. Mud in the bottom of the pond is beneficial. The fish will feed readily on kitchen-garden refuse, such as cabbage, leek, lettuce, hominy, or other substances. Water seldom becomes too warm for these fish. During freezing weather, they bury themselves in the mud at the bottom of the pond. While in this condition, they should not be disturbed.

A farmer in Anderson County has netted \$22 an acre for his flax. Eighty acres in flax on J. S. Hughes's farm, near Wellsville, yielded so nearly 1,000 bushels as to be worth fully \$1,000.—[Miami Republican. In our article on flax some weeks ago, we suggested that it is a paying crop. The above items are simply confirmatory of our statement. It is a crop that comes in ready for market in four months from sowing, is little in the way of other crops, and brings ready cash at a time when the farmer needs it. The objection is that it exhausts the soil. It does; so do other crops. But a rotation may be made with it and other crops that will benefit instead of injuring the soil. It is not so hard on the soil as millet, and is a great weed destroyer.—[Oswego Independent. It is a profitable crop for the seed alone over in Kansas. Surely in Bates and Vernon counties, so near our flax factory, where the straw is valuable, it will doubly pay.—*Rich Hill Mo. Review.*

—*Agricultural Department Reports.*

Washington, D. C., November 12.—The November report of the Bureau of Statistics show, that in twelve months to Sept. 30, 1883, the excess of exports over imports from all United States ports was \$117,326,079, whereas in the twelve months to Sept. 30, 1882, there was an excess of imports over exports to the amount of \$12,054,492, this makes a trade balance \$129,380,561 more favorable than last year. This change in the situation was the result of an increase of \$92,764,861 in exports, and a decrease of \$34,744,662 in the imports. It is the surplus breadstuffs, the cotton and the meat produced by American farmers that put this balance on the trade on the right side.

The roots of a well-set acre of clover are said to contain 185 pounds of nitrogen, 240 pounds of lime, forty-five pounds of potash, nineteen pounds of soda, twenty-four pounds of sulphur and seventy pounds phosphorous acid. At prices given by the chemists in making artificial fertilizers, the nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid would be worth over \$50. Thus if the farmer can secure a good crop of clover at a cost of \$50 per acre, he gets his hay for nothing, and has his money's worth of manure in the clover roots in the soil. The only problem is how to make the clover grow.

Farmers will very soon be banking up their houses for the winter. This is usually necessary to keep the house reasonably warm, yet it too often robs the cellars of all ventilation. As most farmers' cellars contain fruits and vegetables, that are more or less liable to decay, the health of the family will require, in every tightly banked house, a frequent ventilation of the cellar by opening the windows or bulkhead on mildish days. It is cheaper to attend to a little matter of this kind than to pay doctor's bills. We believe in plotting against the doctors every time.—*N. E. Homestead.*

The value of farms, including fences and buildings, in the United States in 1880, was \$10,197,000,000. In 1880 it was \$6,645,000,000, an increase not quite equal to the increase of population. According to the census report, Illinois pays out more money for fences than any other State in the Union. Pennsylvania comes next. There are in the United States 6,000,000 miles of fence, and it has in all cost something over \$2,000,000,000. During the census year alone \$78,629,000 was expended for fencing purposes.

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The following from the pen of John L. Thompson, of Arcona, Indiana, is to the point:

"1st. Concerning my experience and opinion on the cross of the Shropshire ram with Merino ewes, as to the effect on increase: My opinion, backed by seven years' experience with a limited number, is that there can be more lambs raised by the use of the Shropshire ram than the Merino ram, from the fact that the lambs are so much more hardy and vigorous when dropped and require much less care in the start. I may say here in answer to the difficult 'parturition' question, that I have had but little, if any more trouble from the use of large rams than the full blood Merino rams.

"2nd. As to wool, I would not expect the cross to materially change the weight of fleece in the dirt, but from the present outlook for our 'market,' am sure it will materially increase its money value, as it produces a first class medium wool that is always in demand at remunerative prices, as it is a grade of wool not grown in any other country. As to weight of fleece, I think the product of the cross can be made to average 8 pounds, if the flock is well kept and good heavy-fleeced rams used.

"3rd. As to healthfulness of the flocks, it is all that could be asked. They are free from some things that trouble the Merinos, such as maggots; and their feet do not require trimming, as do the Merinos. Of course they will have the footrot if exposed to it, but are not so liable to it as the Merinos are.

"4th. As to weight of carcass, this depends very much on the way they are kept, but as I have been supposing very good common care and attention, will say that you can safely expect an increase in weight of from 25 to 50 percent over the Merinos, with very much better mutton and feeding qualities.

"Now I would say to you, go ahead despite the 'croakers,' and you will come out all right, but if you should lack the nerve and encouragement to try it with your whole flock, then select 50 or 100 of your best ewes, five or six years old, and breed them to good rams this fall, so as to have plenty of grass for the ewes. As the lambs are more vigorous growers, they require a little better kept mothers, and the way the little fellows grow will make your heart glad.

"Now I can't spare you any rams, as I have 200 ewes bought in Ohio now to make the cross on. So you can see that my selfish interest is left out of the question."

—*The Tribune and Farmer.*

Despite the constant attention which is called to the value of sheep, not only as improvers of the land, but as profitable farm animals for wool and mutton, there are many farmers who have never raised or kept a single sheep, though their farms are adapted to raising sheep largely and profitably. Why this is we cannot imagine, for facts and figures can be had by the score to prove the profitability of sheep-breeding, if necessary, and about the only drawback in many localities is the loss occasioned by the dogs.

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The Shepherd.

A Good Cross for Both Wool and Mutton.

When wool growers overdo the market they always have a good show for mutton and for a diversified wool if they will. There is no sense in our running altogether to one sheep even for wool, and much less in using one breed only as a farm animal. We have recently had considerable to say in regard to the mutton sheep and expect to have still more, for the people of this country are not to be confined to the poor mutton they have been in the habit of getting for all time.

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Sorgo Department.

News and Notes.

F. B. Sherburne, of Emporia, Kas., having Northern cane works at Dunlap, was in the office on Tuesday last. He reports the crop of cane in Kansas this year as greater than ever before, probably double that of last year. He had 150 acres of his own this year and his neighbors had about as much more. Are not yet done grinding, but have all their cane cut and standing in the field; are yet making about a thousand gallons syrup a day. Have made no sugar nor attempted it, but will make about 30,000 gallons of syrup. Much of this he finds a market at home at 40 cents by the barrel. Was in the city for the purpose of realizing on car load lots but found the market glutted, hence did not crowd his supply. By holding for awhile he expects to realize a better price and to keep the property under his own control, instead of putting it in the hands of speculators. He says the current year has been unfavorable, but he will run it another year and hopes soon to be able to put in sugar works and aid in supplying the people of Kansas with home-made sugar.

It is amusing, at the same time very gratifying, to see in what numbers the papers of the country are gradually being won over to the sugar cane industry. Four years ago hardly one could be found to touch it, to-day hardly one will refrain from glorifying it. A growl comes up every once in a while, it is true, about sorghum taste, lack of experienced makers and of necessary machinery, &c., &c., but the good word comes with it, sugar and syrup can be made from the Northern cane and the farmer can make from two to three times the money out of it that he can from corn or wheat. When Mr. Schwarz, of the Oak Hill Refining Co., of Madison county, Ill., was in our office on Thursday last he told us of a farmer in his neighborhood who had in twenty acres of wheat and made from it but 70 bushels; whereas off the 20 acres put down in what he had theretofore despised, the Northern cane, he got 225 tons, worth at the mill \$3.00 a ton. Any farmer can figure that out and see where the difference of profit or of loss comes in.

It must be borne to mind that he was at no outlay for buildings, machinery or working up; all he had to do was to raise the cane and deliver it to the mill. The season was but a poor one, as all know. We are right glad that at last our brethren of the press realize that something are coming out of sorghum and that they are composed to make the best of it.

Mr. Schwarz, of the Oak Hill Refining Co., Edwardsville, Ills., paid us a visit last week when on his way to Louisiana, where he expects to spend the next six weeks with the sugar makers. He reports having worked up 800 tons cane and made 12,000 gallons syrup this season. One-third of this has been already sold and nearly all of the remainder engaged. They last year, by good business judgment, established a trade for nearly or quite all they can make, and this year had only to ship the goods. They have not attempted to make sugar for the reason that with the trade made for their syrup they can do better, yet the syrup granulated much too freely for their purpose.

For the cane raised by neighboring farmers they paid \$2.70 per ton when unstripped, and \$3 when stripped, with ten cents extra for Hardy Amber. This bonus is made for the purpose of securing an early working cane, so as to give them plenty to run on until frost, and direct from the field, in place of having to cut and stack to save from possible early frost.

He had with him a sample of their syrup, which he was taking South, as bright and clear and as finely flavored as we have seen this year from any source.

Mr. R. C. Houston of Wilson county Texas, in sending the RURAL WORLD several new subscribers, writes: "Say to H. F. P. of Crow Wing, Minn., that on account of matters to which no reference need be made here, my farm containing 630 acres, with all the buildings and appurtenances, is for sale at a very low price; that I raise on it large quantities of cane, Northern, and have no difficulty in finding a home market for all my syrup at 60 cents. R. C. HOUSTON."

Floresville, Texas.

We very much prefer that when subscribers have lands for sale they advertise them in the proper column, and not mix too many things in departments to which they have but little relation. We have given Mr. Houston's address in full that all who wish may write him. Just here, however, we say, what has been time and again said in our editorial columns, that we advertise farms for sale at the exceedingly low price of \$1 for 60 words, for the purpose of avoiding just this contingency.

That is but about one-fourth the regular price for advertising space, and the price is made to help out our subscribers who may wish, like him, to make a change.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD: Enclosed find sample of sugar and molasses, which I want you to compare with the Western make. I would be glad to know how they compare in quality and color, as I am making extra exertions to get it up to standard grade and quality.

I. T. G.

Carthage, Indiana.

Sugar and syrup received. Very good for open pan boiling without lime; was evidently grown on good cane land, and with a proper method of manufacture would have had a dryer sugar and a syrup with less "twang" and that would keep longer without fermentation. Syrup should have been boiled thicker, but a better defecation would have helped it wonderfully.

ED. RURAL WORLD: I enclose an extract from your paper of August 23rd, entitled "What Ails my Molasses," and express you to-day the sample asked for. It is from No. 1, No. 2 was sold before I could get a sample, and the party that got it was anxious for more. We are anxious to know what ails it.

Z. W. C.

Belle Springs, Kansas.

ANS.—Too little lime in defecation and too much sulphur in burning out the barrel. If one does not know how to handle these assistants he had better not use them. The litmus paper would have told the story. Why use sulphur to burn out a barrel, anyhow?

Queries From Kansas.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD: I wish to inquire why the northern cane business is reduced from the head of the RURAL WORLD columns to the ranks? The RURAL WORLD found sorghum a viscid liquid whose name was offensive to the ear, and which was disliked by eye and nose and tongue. The RURAL WORLD spread the Amber cane, and it introduced the Orange. It urged better processes and better apparatus and greater skill. It enlisted capital and science and labor. The RURAL WORLD talked and taught and traveled. It gathered representative sorghum manufacturers into conventions. It organized sorghum excursions, or rather incursions to southern sugar plantations. It persuaded agricultural colleges to investigate and experiment. The RURAL WORLD gaily cantered its sorghum hobby at all times and in all places, and shouted sorghum sugar to all audiences. The progress made in the northern cane business in the last few years is largely owing to this policy of the RURAL WORLD. Sorghum became refined into northern cane syrup with an enlarged market. Northern cane syrup produced northern sugar with an appreciative market. Sorghum invaded the national capital and secured an appropriation. Sorghum appointed its experts chief government chemists. Sorghum blossomed and ripened and yielded sugar in sight of the White House and beneath the folds of the star spangled banner. Sorghum invaded New Jersey, and secured a bounty on cane and bonus on sugar. It entered the old Bay State, and the Pilgrim descendants are planting sorghum on Bunker Hill Plymouth Rock. Sorghum is skirmishing in Maine and Canada, in New Mexico and Tennessee. It disputes Virginia soil with peanuts and tobacco. Sorghum is capturing Kansas, and Kansas sugar and syrup are sold in Kansas towns and exported to less enterprising States.

And now the RURAL WORLD takes down its sorghum flag and sends its sorghum column to the rear. A cow is chiefly a cud and four teats, but the cow precedes sorghum in the parade of the RURAL WORLD's menagerie. A pig is a miraculous machine for manufacturing lard and consists chiefly of an appetite and a desire for dirt, but the RURAL WORLD's pig leads sorghum in the procession. The RURAL WORLD has made a retrograde advance backward. The RURAL WORLD has turned its head where was its tail. The RURAL WORLD has taken down its sorghum locomotive and consists chiefly of an appetite and a desire for dirt, but the RURAL WORLD's pig leads sorghum in the procession. The RURAL WORLD has made a remarkable instance of the ferocity of bees under certain conditions has just been afforded. Lately the Topsham Horticultural and Cottage Garden Society held their annual exhibition at the Retreat, near Exeter. One of the tents was occupied by the Devon and Exeter Bee Keepers' Association, and among its exhibits was one which excited a great deal of interest. This was a case containing several thousand dead drones, which had lost their lives in a sanguinary battle. A well-known apianist was visiting a friend's house, and on coming to one of the bee-hives it was found that there was a great uproar inside. Closer inspection showed the ground below the hive to be covered with several hundred dead drones, and hosts of them were still being brought to the surface and bounded out by the workers, generally by being seized behind the head and dragged along to the exit, where, as a kind of farewell, a sting was given to them. Examination of the slain revealed the fact that they had been severely handled—many were headless, others had lost legs or wings or both, and all bore evidence of rough usage. That the bees were very much the superior force was shown by the fact that only about fifty of them had fallen in the fray—a remarkable disproportion to the number slain of the enemy. The battle had raged from about seven in the morning to the same hour in the evening, and seemed then to end only with the utter annihilation of the drones.

To those unacquainted with the nature of the honey-bee, the above may seem an extraordinary affair, but it is one of very common occurrence, especially at this season of the year. Instead of a battle, however, it was simply a slaughter of the drones, which always takes place in the fall of the year, after the honey flow has ceased. The fifty dead worker bees can hardly be charged up to the fighting qualities of the drones, as they have no mode of defence, being stingless. The drones are the male bees, and their only purpose seems to be the fertilization of the queens, and after the season is over they are mercilessly slaughtered. Queenless colonies will sometimes retain the drones through winter.

Sugar is lacking in literature. Nearly all other arts have technical works which include all that is known of these arts. The soap manufacturer and the distiller, the vinegar maker and the metal workers have their respective books which are the dictionaries and encyclopedias and compendiums of those arts. Industrial publishers say there is but one complete work on sugar, and that has been out of print twenty years and can be only had in London. If a person wishes to learn something of the sugar business he can consult the fragmentary and rudimentary treatises of Stewart or Hedges, or can turn over the horrible pictures of diseased spleens and livers in the Agricultural Reports and pass interesting articles on glancers till he comes to the sugar, or he can go to the RURAL WORLD's back door and pass its horse lot and cattle corral and sheep fold and he may find some sugar for the price of a pig sty.

A. D. A.

In reply to our highly-respected correspondent we will say that we now give the second page, instead of the first, to Sorgo, for several reasons. One is that our columns are considerably longer on the second than on the first page, and the same amount of matter does not take up so many columns. Another reason is that we frequently have large illustrations which must appear on the first page, consuming much space, and thus lessening the amount of matter that can appear there. These illustrations are not appropriate in the Sorgo department, but really should appear on the first page. We cannot see, for the life of us, what difference it makes, whether that department appears on the first, or second page, so the same amount of interesting matter appears, and our correspondent cannot say there has been any lack in this respect. On the second page it has nothing to interfere with it, and as the pages of the RURAL are now pasted and cut, it certainly does not matter on what page any department appears.

Taking down the flag, indeed! Why should we? Has sorghum ever made such a showing as this year? Is it not steadily increasing in public estimation? Has it ever before achieved such grand results? From New Jersey way across the Continent to California the best of sugar and syrup has been made, and in large and paying quantities. We have worked long and faithfully to advance this great interest, and shall not abandon it, if we live, before this country not only makes all the sugar needed for home consumption, but exports it, and

we believe if our life is lengthened to a fair old age we shall see this accomplished. For the benefit of this important department, we put it on a page where it should have no intruders, where big cuts should not be put in to crowd out important matter. Instead of being chided, we hoped, the change would be appreciated and approved. And we think our kind correspondent wanted an opportunity to pay the RURAL a compliment and took this method to do it. For his benefit we will say that the sorghum flag is still floating on the RURAL WORLD staff, and that it will continue to float until still greater victories are achieved. It was the first paper to espouse the cause of sorghum, when it had hardly a friend, and it will be the last to abandon it. The RURAL WORLD will continue to collect matter fresh from all parts of the country, and weekly distribute it to its tens of thousands of readers, not only in the United States, but in all parts of the civilized world. And in this good work in which we are engaged we invite the aid of our correspondents and of the growers and manufacturers of sorgo syrup and sugar. The RURAL WORLD is in a position to do great good. This interest is growing and will continue to grow and achieve great blessings for our country.

Indiana Cane-Growers' Association.

COL. COLMAN: Yesterday our executive committee met and arranged a programme for our next meeting of Cane-growers.

I believe you gave us to understand that you would be with us this winter. Hope you can be with us and give us a talk on some pertinent subject—your own choice. We assign you an hour in evening first day. We have a reunion and supper the first evening at the Grand Hotel—but I will send programme when complete. Hope you can signify your acceptance at once. Time of meeting December 26, 27, 28, '83. Holiday week; all trains half fare the entire week.

Truly, A. FURNAS.

Danville, Ind.

P. S. The outlook is now favorable for an interesting meeting. I have been gathering up the names and addresses of all the cane growers I could find, and will be able to reach them with circulars.

Indiana has made a wide stride in advance of anything heretofore done here in the cane industry.

My own county, (Hendricks) has made

perhaps twice as much syrup as ever before and of much better quality. The same of many other localities.

The remark of all, is if you can make that kind of molasses, I will plant more next year.

A. F.

REPLY.—You can count upon our being at your meeting.

Sugar from Ottawa.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD: I send you by this mail a sample of a forty-barrel lot of sugar just swung out. For beauty, color, crystal and purity I think the boys will have hard work to excel. We are through crushing for the season. I never want to pass through another season like the past. Wet, cold, and disastrous all the way through. Our first planting of Amber cane commenced deteriorating in cane sugar and increasing in grape sugar from the time the seed commenced to harden. The cane kept on growing, throwing out suckers from the upper joints. All this, and a fermentation of a leaky glucose house, gave us enough trouble for one season, to say nothing of slough water for washing char. Although we have had hard experience the past season, enough was proven to convince my associated friends that sorghum was bound to be king. Our second planting of Amber and Orange proved quite satisfactory by my method was a success. Our syrups thus far are bringing 50 cents per gallon. As we have made some money our work will go on, but with surroundings and fixtures to suit. Kansas is a great sugar country, but there are many other places just as good. I look forward to the meeting of cane growers in your city the coming winter with great interest. Some grand successes and experiences will be brought out. We are through contrasted with two experts. They failed. These facts will come out by and at the proper time. I am busy storing machinery and cleaning up, so must close. The RURAL grows more and more interesting. Yours,

JAS. WILLHELM.

Ottawa, Kansas, Nov. 1st, 1882.

The sugar came and hand compares favorably with that received from other factories.

Syrup From Clark County, Mo.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD: With this find cash for two new subscriptions to go to names and offices given.

We send you an average sample of Early Amber molasses, can not hardly keep it from getting too grainy this year, without a thermometer; we sent to St. Louis but could not get any. We are making without using anything to clarify. Have about 1800 gallons to make for custom and our own. There is a great deal of sorghum raised in Clark and adjoining counties, and would be a great deal more if there was a sugar refinery say about Keokuk or neighboring place. Would you please let us know where we can get a thermometer for next year, as it is too late for this.

N. B.—We have 17 bbls on hand, and a close neighbor has 10 bbls.

JOHN G. S.

Kahoka, Clark Co.

Yes. Write J. A. Field & Co., St. Louis. The syrup is received and a good average article, but needs lime.

Going South.

COL. N. J. COLMAN: A young and industrious man in my employ desired to go South and work at the sugar boiling this winter. Will you please give me the address of some one down in Louisiana that would be likely to employ him, and about how long the season will last. I will be through in ten days, weather permitting, at which time he will be ready to start. He has had six or seven years experience, and has worked for me four years at the sorghum business. I think he will give any man good satisfaction so far as he is able from his experience.

Yours truly,

T. J. C. Shiloh Hill, Ills.

Mr. Schwarz was in our office on his way to Louisiana on Thursday last; said he was going South, and taking two

young men that had been working with him along. He reports Southern manufacturers desirous of securing Northern help.

Chinese Interest in Sorghum Sugar.

For 2,000 years sorghum has been profitably grown in China as a cereal, but has never been utilized as a source of producing sugar. The experiments made in this country by well-known scientists in this direction have attracted much attention in China. The people of that country are not slow to see that if the clear gain of its sugar value can be added to the seed crop it will prove a matter of vast importance to the Empire. Accordingly, some weeks ago the Chinese Ambassador and his two secretaries were among a party of visitors to the Rio Grande Sugar Company's works, for the purpose of learning what they could from observation of the processes employed in the manufacture of sugar from sorghum. Concerning the interest evinced by the shrewd and inquisitive representatives of the Celestial Kingdom a correspondent of the New York Tribune says: "If they had been sugar experts, inclined to purchase the whole concern as an investment, they could not have studied the methods and machinery more closely or more intelligently. They watched the cane through the rollers and followed the expressed juice as it was clarified and boiled through the vacuum pans to the centrifugals, and by their searching inquiries kept Dr. Collier and Superintendent Hughes constantly explaining every detail through the entire process. When the day was over there is little doubt that they had a more comprehensive knowledge of sugar-making than any of the American visitors."

The Chinese Ambassador went there for a purpose evident enough, and the next thing to be expected is that one of these days China will be largely engaged in the successful manufacture of sorghum sugar.

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM.

IS IT HARMLESS TO THE MOST DELICATE CHILD? IT CONTAINS NO OPIUM IN ANY FORM!

RECOMMENDED BY PHYSICIANS, MINISTERS AND NURSES. IN FACT BY EVERYBODY WHO HAS GIVEN IT A TRIAL.

AS AN EXPECTORANT IT HAS NO EQUAL.

SOLD BY ALL MEDICINE DEALERS.

THE ONLY GENUINE LEMON ROCK AND RYE ACID PHOSPHATE.

CAUTION: OWNERS OF THE GREAT NERVE, HEADACHE, ETC., COMBINED WITH ACID PHOSPHATE.

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Horticultural.

Trees in the School-Yard and on the Highway.

COL. COLMAN: I send you herewith a letter on the "Esthetics in Education," otherwise flowers in the school room, and trees in the yard and on the highways. Give it a place in your columns, and help the cause of "The true, the beautiful and the good."

GEORGE C. EISENMEYER.

Mascoutah, Ills.

The friends of education in this country are often compelled to admit that the mental training of the child is not such as the time spent in school might fairly warrant. Especially is this true of our country schools. A remedy for this deficiency can, perhaps, be best found in a study of its cause. This I believe to be the absence of surroundings calculated to cultivate taste and quicken the powers of perception. So long as we allow the contents of books to be the sole factor in the education of our children, ignoring the influence of beautiful and elevating associations, just so long may we expect to be disappointed at the results shown by the school life of the average pupil. We should give our boys and girls something more inviting to look at than four-barred and stinging walls.

It is an uncommon thing to see a shutterless school house standing naked and forlorn upon the open prairie, unshaded and unadorned by tree or shrub of any description. The interior, too, of the building is often as bleak and barren as the ground around it.

Let us relieve the monotony of such scenes by enclosing ample grounds and adorning them with grass plots, shade and other ornamental trees. It is an old saying that men learn to do things by doing them, and we may justly add that children learn to appreciate refinement and beauty by being in daily contact with them. I hold that a bouquet of flowers on the teacher's desk is a greater civilizing agent than a whole wagon load of rods. Let us cultivate not only the eye but also the ear. The daily exercises should be enlivened by music. If an instrument can be added to the school furniture, so much the better. A few inexpensive pictures will add greatly to the attractiveness of the room. The cost of these improvements would be insignificant compared with the benefit conferred. Beautiful sights and sweet sounds will go quite as far in giving tone to the character of the future citizen as the humdrum of class exercises.

Perhaps this negligence on the part of school patrons is due, in a measure, to the fact that many of them are tenants and do not therefore feel that interest in improvements felt by those who have permanent interests in the district. But this very fact is an additional reason for making them. No doubt, many of the children whose parents are now renters will, in the changes so marked in this country, become land owners and citizens, and the more refined the influences by which they are now surrounded, the better able will they be to fill creditably the responsibilities of citizens.

I suggest, then, that some one, our honorable County Judge, for instance, make, in due time, a call for an Arbor Day, on which the people in their respective districts assemble and plant shade and ornamental trees along our highways and on our school grounds. As to the *modus operandi*, almost any one can plant a tree. During the dry season of the first year ground should be thoroughly hoed and pulverized around the trees, so as to allow the gases of the earth to come in contact with the sun's rays and with the external atmospheric influences. If this care is taken not one in a hundred will die. A little mulching with wet leaves or straw will answer where the hoeling is not resorted to. The holes can be dug this fall. They will thus absorb moisture during the winter—a thing much to be desired. The earth taken from the holes should be thrown up in heaps where the frost can thoroughly permeate it. Do not plant too deep. The more readily the sun can reach the roots the faster will they grow.

The man who in our dry climate plants a tree, aside from the practical benefits of fruit and shade, is a public benefactor; since he does that which tends to lessen the frequency and force of drought.

True, the planting, and subsequent growth of the tree, will not immediately return in dollars and cents, but they do much more, since they encourage and foster higher civilization.

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We should not forget that the time is past, when, in our midst, the surroundings and wants of a new country served of themselves as an educating power. We may, in all probability, never again point to an able President whose early life was that of a rail-splitter, and who had never the advantages of schooling, capable judges, clerks of courts, sheriffs, and surveyors who have filled their places creditably in spite of lack of early training, will in the future be only historic characters of pioneer times. Let us do our duty as men, as our forefathers did theirs.

How to Fertilize Fruit Trees.

Here and there on all farms, and in most fruit gardens will be seen an occasional tree or grape vine, which seems to lack vigor—does not grow well, and yet seems to have no particular disease. The probabilities are that the tree is dying of starvation and needs a liberal supply of food. When you give it this ration, do not pile a load of manure around the trunk of the tree or the body of a grape vine. That is just the place where it will do the least good. Near the trunk of the tree, the roots are all large. The fibrous roots, the feeders, are further off near the ends of the roots. These only can take up the nutrient. It is always safe to assume that the roots extend as far from the tree in every direction as do the limbs of the tree, and to properly fertilize, spread the manure all over that area. Then fork it in and you have done a good work and done it well. If some disease has begun to work on the tree, you will put the tree in a healthy, vigorous condition, the better enabling it to successfully contend against its enemies. We have seen numerous old pear and apple trees, bearing poor and gnarled fruit, which the owners consider of no value, but which such treatment as we have outlined above would restore to their original usefulness. Try it and be convinced.—Orange Co. Farmer.

The Orchard Profits.

Land set with apple trees, and well cared for, becomes the most valuable part of the farm. One acre of land set with trees 30 feet apart each way will contain about 50 trees. If these trees are well cared for, in 10 years they will be worth \$10 each, or \$500 per acre. Ten acres of such orchards, would be worth \$5,000.

The apples which had been produced during the first ten years ought to be sufficient to pay all the cost of care and culture. Then there remains an increase in the valuation of the farm of \$5,000. A handsome increase in property to be made in 10 years. Besides, a farmer having such an orchard would be in position to do a profitable business in orcharding. During the next five years these trees ought to average at least a barrel of fruit each year, and perhaps there would be two barrels each. But at only one barrel each there would be 50 barrels per acre, or 500 barrels on the 10 acres, which, at \$10 per barrel, would be \$1,000 per year as the income from the orchard. Such an addition to the income of almost any farm would place the owner's financial affairs in very satisfactory condition. After the trees had attained the age of 15 years, the yield per tree would be likely to average from two to four barrels per year, or from 100 to 200 barrels per acre, or from 1,000 to 2,000 barrels per year from the ten acres, affording a more substantial income than the average merchant or professional man obtains. Such results are attainable on any good fruit farm, where the soil is suitable and the location favorable. If one has had no experience he should proceed slowly and carefully, learning as he goes along. He should not be in a hurry to set a large number of trees at first. Begin by setting a few trees. If those do well then set more. If the first fall, seek to ascertain why they failed, and set more and make them live. The careful observer will soon learn to care for his trees and make his efforts successful.—Dr. Reynolds, in *N. E. Farmer*.

Horticultural Notes.

Apple or pear brush can often be turned to account as mulch. We have known a successful apple grower to chop his finer brush into fragments a few inches long by means of a hatchet and block, and to use it as a mulch for his trees. If the trees are large and pretty completely shade the ground, this brush may be applied in the "odd years" with few, if any, unpleasant results. Brush much over an inch in diameter will not soon rot, however, but will remain as an objectionable feature on the surface.—*American Cultivator*.

Cuttings of currants, etc., should be planted at once; even if the foliage has not fallen, it can be picked off. Select a dry and well pulverized soil, and insert the cuttings their entire length, leaving the top of the cutting on a level with the soil. The cuttings should be from six to eight inches in length; tramp the ground firmly around them, and leave them; no watering will be needed. In the course of six weeks young roots will have formed but the plants need not be disturbed till spring, when they may be set out in their permanent locations, thus saving almost the growth of a year by this system of fall growing.

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Children love flowers quite as much as older people, and if they are permitted to have a small garden all their own, in which they can plant, and dig, and weed and hoe, and use the tiny little implements that are made so cheaply for the flower garden, they will not only take the greatest delight in its possession, and in the buds and flowers, but will also gain a large amount of faith and muscular development. Their love of the beautiful will also be largely cultivated, and they can also be taught to give their flowers to the sick and poor children, and learn that to give pleasure to others is the surest way of receiving it.

But of all the lessons to be taught to children by working in a garden, the most valuable is the art of observation. So minute, so varied, and so delicate, and yet so unerring are the operations of nature that although the closest study may fail to divulge her secrets, the results of such study are so rich and so surprising that they are stimulated to fresh researches. Let the child plant morning glories, which bloom so brightly every morning, mignonette, and sweet Alyssum, and, for get-me-nots, to make tiny, sweet bouquets. Then give a monthly rose bush, a geranium, a feverfew, and some verbena and pansies, and there will be an amount of flowers which will gladden the hearts of a schoolful of children. If the kind mother will attend to it, and have the beds laid out, and teach her darlings how to plant seeds and set out plants, she will give them an occupation that they will not weary of while life lasts.

In making plans for new orchards one should be very sure that he gives the trees sufficient room. Apple trees should never be set nearer together than two rods, and forty feet is much better. Larger, thirstier and longer-lived trees will be secured if they are set forty feet apart. If properly cultivated trees will need that much room in fifteen years. In the meantime small fruits may be grown between the rows, but it must not be forgotten that good culture and a liberal supply of manure must be given. Some plant peach trees alternately with the apples, intending to cut them out when the apple trees need the room; but we have usually observed that the peach trees were not removed when they should have been.

A writer in the Cincinnati *Times* gives his views of early pears as follows: Of all the early pears for a farmer's garden I place Clapp's Favorite first. It is a large handsome fruit; the flavor is a large sprightly acid; the tree bears early and abundantly and every year. If the fruit is picked as soon as the red cheek is seen and the red stem parts easily, and is ripened in a cool cellar, it does not rot at the core, and this is all the fault laid to it. Manning's Elizabeth is a sweet little pear and bears early. Tyson is a delicious middle-sized pear, but one has to wait twelve years to find that out. These are all hardy, healthy trees, and come in before Bartlett. This is an excellent fall pear, but the blight affects it badly. Bonne de Jersey, dwarf or standard, is the most prolific pear I know of, and the dwarf bears the third year and every year after. Lawrence is a fine white pear.

The grubs and cut worms are becoming so numerous over the prairie that we must do something to head them off. Plowing the ground late in the autumn is now conceded by gardeners and small fruit growers to be the easiest and surest way of dealing with them. Perhaps, as with the larva of the canker worm, the fall plowing does not expose the embryo insect, but it seems to disturb the channels provided for emerging in the spring. Do not think of planting a strawberry bed, a raspberry plantation, or a vegetable garden next spring on spring plowing. If not already done be sure to have the soil inverted before the ground freezes. Aside from the insect trouble the action of the frost is needed in fixing the soil for convenience in spring planting, and the more certain growth of seeds and plants.

During the strawberry season we noticed that a decaying strawberry had a great attraction for the wire worm. We frequently found as many as twenty of these worms beneath a single over-ripe or decaying fruit. This suggested that it might be possible to entrap the wire worm by placing some sweet substance about the plants that are troubled by it.

Accordingly, on June 25th, we placed small lumps of a mixture of molasses and wheat flour about plants of Sweet William in the flower garden, which, from the early spring had been the favorite haunt of the wire worm. On June 29th an examination showed that our trap was a success, and we counted 35 worms under a lump of the mixture, the size of a silver dollar. We next collected a large number of the worms and placed them with a small quantity of soil on an earthen seed-pan, and placed on the soil a lump of the same mixture, with a little

Paris green added. The mixture attracted the worms as before but, to our surprise, it did not kill them. We confined them for a week in the pan, but did not see that they diminished in numbers.—Dr. E. L. Sturtevant.

Just before winter sets in, tender shrubs and creeping plants should be covered with such material as is required for full protection. Raspberries may be protected principally with earth, by bending them down and slightly covering the tops. Tender flowering shrubs may be protected with straw. After carefully bending the lateral branches up to the stem, straw should be placed around the whole and well tied to keep it in place.

The strawberry bed needs particular care in covering, for if not covered closely enough, the plants will winter kill, and if covered too close they will die for want of air. It must be remembered that the strawberry plant is a partial evergreen, and will not bear close covering; what it wants is a simple protection from the extreme cold winds and the sudden changes, and yet have the air pass among them. Pine boughs make one of the best of materials for protection; very coarse stable manure may be used, but care must be taken not to spread large lumps of clear manure on the vines. Corn stalks are often used to advantage, also coarse grass. Whatever is used should be applied as soon as the growing season is over.

Some years ago, cuttings of currants, gooseberries, grapes, willows, quinces, weigela, honeysuckles, spireas, hibiscus, deutzias and other plants which can be grown from cuttings of ripened wood, were planted in spring; but after it became a recognized fact that the soil out of doors during October was warmer than the air immediately above it, and thus presenting all the conditions which propagators endeavored to secure in the propagation of exotic plants by cuttings—that is, keeping the soil warmer than the air—autumn was found the proper time to put cuttings of hardy plants in the ground. This has led to a distinguishing feature in nursery work, not only in planting cuttings, but in the general operations of the business. Trees are sold in great quantities to be planted in the fall, and the work is now distributed through two seasons, instead of members of any church; who would otherwise be unable to secure such care and treatment. The current expenses of the institution are met by the receipt from the hundreds of distinguished and wealthy people who every year crowd its utmost capacity. Here some men and women who were once in perfect health, but neglected the first symptoms of disease. The uncertain pains they felt at first were overlooked till their health became impaired. They little realized the danger before them, nor how alarming even trifling ailments might prove. They constitute all classes, including ministers and bishops, lawyers, judges, statesmen, millionaires, journalists, college professors and officials from all parts of the land.

Drawing the morning *Democrat* and *Chronicle* from his pocket, the reporter remarked, "Doctor, that letter of yours has created a good deal of talk, and many of our readers have questioned its authenticity."

"To what do you refer?" remarked the doctor.

"Have you not seen the paper?"

"Yes, but I have not had time to read it yet."

The reporter thereupon showed him the letter, which is as follows:

CLIFTON SPRINGS SANITARIUM CO., CLIFTON SPRINGS, N. Y.

Oct. 11, 1883.

DEAR SIR: I am using Warner's Safe Cure, and I regard it as the best remedy for some forms of kidney disease that we have. I am watching with great care some cases I am now treating with it, and I hope for favorable results.

I wish you might come down yourself, as I would like very much to talk with you about your sterling remedy and show you our institution.

Yours truly,

[Signed] HENRY FOSTER, M. D.

"I do not see why anybody should be skeptical concerning that letter," remarked the doctor.

"Isn't it unusual for a physician of your standing and influence to command a proprietary preparation?"

"I don't know how it may be with others, but in this institution we allow no person to dictate to us what we shall use. Our purpose is to cure the sick, and for the work we use anything we know to be valuable. Because I know Warner's Safe Cure is a very valuable preparation, I command it. As its power is manifested under my use, so shall I add to the completeness of my commandation."

"Have you ever analyzed it, doctor?"

"We always analyze before we try any preparation on which we do not know the constituents. But analysis, you know, only gives the elements; it does not give the all-important proportions. The remarkable power of Warner's Safe Cure undoubtedly consists in the proportions according to which its elements are mixed." While there may be a thousand remedies made of the same elements, unless they are put together in proper proportions, they are worthless as kidney and liver preparations.

"I hope some day to meet Mr. Warner personally, and extend fuller congratulations to him on the excellence of his preparations. I have heard much of him as the founder of Warner Observatory, and as a man of large benevolence. The reputed high character of the man himself gave assurance to me in the first place that he would not put a remedy upon the market that was not trustworthy; and it was a source of a good deal of gratification to me to find out by actual experiment that the remedy itself sustained my impressions."

The conclusion reached by Dr. Foster is precisely the same found by Dr. Dio Lewis, Dr. Robert A. Gunn, Ex-Surgeon General Gallagher and others, and proves beyond a doubt the great efficacy of the remedy which has awakened so much attention in the land and rescued so many men, women and children from disease and death.

Grapevines.

I have for sale an excellent lot of Elvira, Michigan, Greengage, Martha Noah, Nortons and other desirable kinds of Grapevines. Send for prices, wholesale and retail.

C. T. MALLINCKRODT.

St. Charles, Mo.

Plants of Best Quality.

Warranted true to name. Low

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PROMISING NOVELTIES.

Send for price list.

BUSH, SON & MEISSNER,

Bushville, Jefferson County Mo.

Northern Sugar Cane Manual

By PROFS. WEBER & SCOVELL,

Of Champaign, Ill. Sent free on application

to GEO. S. SQUIER, Buffalo, N. Y.

Mailed free to all who will send us a club of four new subscribers to the *RURAL WORLD*, or it will be sent postpaid on receipt of one dollar cash.

COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD.

HIS OWN EXECUTOR.
A Well-known Gentleman's Philanthropy and the Commotion Caused by One of His Letters.

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COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD

THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR.

BY NORMAN J. COLMAN

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

ADVERTISING: 25 cents per line of space; re-

diction on large or long time advertisements.

Address NORMAN J. COLMAN, Publisher,

60 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.

(Advertisers will find the RURAL WORLD one of the best advertising mediums of its class in the country. This is the uniform testimony of all who have given it a trial. Many of our largest advertising patrons have used it for more than a quarter of a century, which is the highest possible recommendation of its value as an advertising medium.

SOMETIME during the coming month a Farmers' meeting is to be held at Higginsville, Mo., to discuss various matters pertaining to the farm, special attention being given to the subject of building creameries. So many practical men will be present it is expected the meeting will bring good and speedy results, and it is hoped that all who can, will attend.

A WORD with you, reader. We have reason to be pleased and proud of the present circulation of the RURAL WORLD; but have also reason to say to our good old friends and present readers that, with an hour's labor this week on their part it can be doubled. There is no one getting the RURAL WORLD who could not, if he would, in an hour secure us from one to five new subscribers for next year's paper. It will cost, but one dollar from now until January 1st, 1885, and we want all the new subscribers we can get, and more too. We ought to have 100,000 subscribers to-day, and could have by January 1st, with a little help. It costs but one dollar.

PROF. A. J. COOK, Professor of Entomology in the Michigan State Agricultural College, has sent to this office a copy of his "Bee-keepers' Guide, or Manual of the Apairy," being the ninth edition, revised, enlarged, mostly re-written and beautifully illustrated; for which a very large demand has been manifested by the bee-keepers of the West, and particularly through the columns of the RURAL WORLD.

The work may be had by addressing this office, at a cost of \$1.20, or it and the RURAL WORLD for \$2.00. This new edition of the "Bee-keeper's Guide" is wanted by everyone keeping bees.

AND now we learn there is a corner in glass. The dealers in this city, in explaining away why they are charging nearly double the usual price for glass, state that two months ago the glass blowers inaugurated a strike against the factories, demanding higher wages. The demand was refused, but the strikers, anticipating this, had made provisions for a prolonged fight, and much to the surprise of the manufacturers are still out and defiant, and thus matters have stood since last September, neither party yielding. The proprietors and managers of the very extensive establishments at Pittsburg are not so much opposed to an advance in wages as they are to the idea of being dictated to by the glass blowers and operators in the factories, and in maintaining a cherished principle that they witness a serious financial loss that grows with time. The strikers, too, are making a desperate fight and in doing so cannot but keenly feel the loss resulting to themselves, and the end seems to be far off.

FIGURES tell telling stories sometimes, especially when they are vouched for by the public records, as will be found in the following from the editorial columns of the New York *Sun*: "Before the civil war congress usually appropriated every fourth year a sum of \$10,000 or \$15,000 to furnish the White House for an incoming president. Such parts of the old furniture as had been injured were sold, and the proceeds of the sale were added to the fund for the new equipment. But since the accession of Grant the appropriations have increased enormously, as the following shows: 1870, \$25,000; 1871, \$15,000; 1872, \$5,000; 1873, \$12,000; 1874, \$10,000; 1875, \$10,000; 1876, \$10,000; 1877, \$10,000; 1878, \$20,000; 1879, \$25,000; 1880, \$23,000; 1881, \$20,000; 1882, \$30,000; 1883, \$25,000; 1884, \$25,000—total, \$272,000. It will be noticed that \$85,000 were voted for furniture during the term of the presidency of Mr. Hayes and more than half of this total in the years 1879 and 1880. If this money was honestly applied to the objects for which it was granted the White House must have been thoroughly equipped in every respect when Gen. Garfield entered it as president. But it is an open secret that scarcely any of the articles of ordinary household use were found in the Executive Mansion on the 4th of March, 1881. They had mysteriously disappeared with the exodus."

DOES IT EVERY TIME.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD: I must acknowledge that it pays to advertise, especially in the RURAL WORLD. My little card of peach pits, nuts, etc., for sale, has brought me quite a number of enquiries, and I have made sale to each of them. One of them calls for 500 bushels of walnuts, and I shall be able to fill the order and will ship them in a few days.

W. B. WRIGHT.

Mount Vernon, Ills.

THE BARB-WIRE MONOPOLY.

For months past the barb-wire men have been at loggerheads, and the same has grown out of the claims made by the Washburn & Moen Manufacturing Co.'s claim of a royalty of seventy-five cents on every one hundred pounds made by anyone but themselves.

The latest developments come to us under date of Joliet, Ills., Nov. 12th, and are as follows:

Washburn and gives to him the exclusive right for barb-wire for fencing purposes, is still in effect, and all manufacturers in his jurisdiction are held subject to Washburn's patent, while in Judge Treat's district Washburn is powerless and manufacturers are permitted to go ahead without interference and without the payment of any royalties whatever. They can therefore put out their product and reap a good profit at prices which, on account of heavy royalties, manufacturers in this district can not compete with except at a loss. This new corporation already has agents out west hunting desirable locations, and the hegira of the barb-wire men from Illinois may soon be expected. Citizens in this place are considerably exercised about it, since it will throw from 500 to 1,000 men out of employment and take out of the place its dozen or more barb-wire factories, which add largely to the wealth and business prosperity of the city."

A CANADIAN IDEA.

We have been told before to-day, "to go from home for news," and we are reminded of the adage by the following editorial from the Montreal, (Canada), *Witness*, of Nov. 7. Is it any matter for surprise that emigrants prefer other States for settlement, whilst such bare-faced and impudent falsehoods are told of Missouri? We have known the Montreal *Witness* for more than a quarter of a century, as a fearless and truthful representative of what it believed to be true, but can assure it that, whilst we have lawless people in our State, its representations are a long, long way wide of the mark. The *Witness* has, to say the least, been sadly misinformed, as its own citizens can inform it. The RURAL WORLD suggests that it interview the Hon. Matt. H. Cochrane of its own Province, and tell the story from his standpoint. This is the editorial referred to:

"An attempt, which to be successful must be a Herculean one, is being made to cleanse the Missourian stable. For a long time in Missouri the privileged classes were murderers, highway and public robbers, gamblers and thieves of various grades. From being non-protective of respectable people the authorities have of late become aggressive toward them. Officials who ventured to stem the tide of crime and immorality were dismissed through the influence of rings under the patronage of the Governor himself. That dignitary, too, had come to degrade the high function of the pardoning power to an extent that made his authority really a terror to well-doers and a praise to them that did evil. The afflicted commonwealth is not yet, however, in a region of despair, since it is able to furnish a grand jury moral, firm and courageous enough to indict a formidable array of officials for various high misdemeanors. Even the Governor himself is censured by these patriots, and a recommendation made that the pardoning power he has prostituted be taken from him. Crime and corruption have, however, held sway so long in the State and in the city of St. Louis that the grand jurors require the support, to the end of what must be a great struggle, of all the moral strength of the commonwealth."

THE COMING CONTEST.

The Washington correspondent of the St. Louis *Republican* telegraphed that paper last Wednesday night, after the complete returns of the election had been received, as follows:

There has been a great deal of figuring on the electoral vote here to-day. The Mahone disaster has about buried the Republican hope of carrying several Southern States next year and the thoughts of the politicians and managers will be chiefly to the North. One could hear to-day on every hand the declaration that New York must be the great battle ground next year. Statistics were resorted to to prove that this would be the case. Republicans took encouragement from the following election estimate which appeared to receive general approval:

SUEDE DEMOCRATIC ELECTORAL VOTES.			
Alabama.....	10	Missouri.....	16
Arkansas.....	7	New Jersey.....	9
Delaware.....	3	North Carolina.....	11
Florida.....	4	South Carolina.....	9
Georgia.....	12	Tennessee.....	12
Indiana.....	15	Texas.....	4
Kentucky.....	13	West Virginia.....	6
Louisiana.....	8		
Maryland.....	8	Total.....	65
Mississippi.....	9		
SUEDE REPUBLICAN.			
Illinois.....	22	Ohio.....	23
Iowa.....	13	Oregon.....	3
Kansas.....	8	Pennsylvania.....	30
Maine.....	6	Rhode Island.....	4
Massachusetts.....	14	Vermont.....	11
Michigan.....	13	Wisconsin.....	11
Nebraska.....	5		
New Hampshire.....	4	Total.....	168
DOUBTFUL.			
California.....	8	New York.....	36
Colorado.....	3	Virginia.....	12
Connecticut.....	6		
Nebraska.....	3	Total.....	68

ACCORDING TO THIS ESTIMATE, the party which obtained the thirty-six votes of New York will elect the president, and neither party can win without the New York vote. From what has leaked out to-day here it is probable that the Republican campaign is to be shaped on the above basis. The talk of capturing several Southern States is not received with much favor since Mahone's eclipse in Virginia. It appears to be the general opinion here in official and political circles that from now till after the presidential election the politics of the State of New York must be of extraordinary interest and attract very great attention.

DEATH OF R. W. GENTRY.

R. W. Gentry, of Pettis County, Mo., is known to all the readers of the RURAL WORLD as one of the most enterprising breeders of Spanish Merino sheep in the State of Missouri. His demise on Friday last was heralded over the wires and published in the morning papers in St. Louis on Saturday, taking everybody by surprise, for he was young, only 26 years of age, full of energy, and one of the most enterprising in the State. He was minister of the Christian Church, and at our request the Rev. J. W. Smart prepared the following obituary for our readers:

Friday evening Nov. 9, 1883, at seven o'clock, near Sedalia, Mo., the gentle spirit of this young man took its flight to the spirit world. It seems strange that the young and the talented are thus taken just as they are entering upon useful lives. But so it is, and we humbly bow to the will of Him who doeth all things well. We do not understand all about it, but when the "mists have cleared away" we shall then know how it is. R. W. Gentry was no ordinary man, as all who knew him will testify.

Naturally he was bright, and he had enjoyed the boon of a liberal education. He graduated with first honors from the State University at Columbia, and soon afterward made an engagement to locate with the Christian Church in Columbia, as its pastor. It was quite an undertaking for one so young, and without experience to take such a charge as Columbia, where some of the most talented preachers of Missouri had lived and labored. But he proved equal to the task, and while there elicited praise from his brethren on account of his pulpit ability. His pastorate was short but quite successful, and satisfactory to his Church. He could have continued indefinitely, and when he tendered his resignation there were many sad hearts among the people of his charge.

He owned a very large farm in Pettis county, near Sedalia, and business demanded his presence there. This was the cause of his resignation at Columbia. He did not intend to abandon his chosen calling; in the near future he contemplated entering into active work again for the betterment and the saving of his fellow-men. But he has been called home, with his plans and purposes unfinished. He died as he had lived—a Christian, and now enjoys the rest promised the true, the faithful and the good.

There is no young man that we call to mind now in Missouri who is the equal of R. W. Gentry. His wisdom, his attainments and his good common sense were greater for his age than any one we know. His character was spotless and his integrity unimpeachable.

Among the farmers and stock-raisers of Missouri he was well known, having been associated with them in various ways for some years. The news of his death will bring sadness into many homes, not only in his own State, but elsewhere. Wherever he was known he made friends, and was loved and honored by those friends; and now they will sadly mourn his death. But they will remember him as a model young Christian man, and around their memories of him the light of heaven will never go out.

The great sorrow, however, is in his own home, with the companion of his joys and sorrows. There the shadow is the darkest, and in his mother's home this great shadow hides away much of the sunshine. But they are all children of God, and their faith, no doubt, sees beyond this darkness that now is, so that they sorrow not as those who have no hope.

There is a brighter day, when loved ones, who have followed the dear Christ in this life, shall meet again.

St. Louis, Nov. 12, 1883.

GROW MORE FRUIT.

The observing fruit-grower who has watched current events in connection with his business the last two years, must feel convinced that substantial inducements exist to grow more fruit and extend his field of operations. The larger and more important fruits, such as apples and peaches, have yielded fine profits to a great many cultivators during the last two or three years. It may be urged that the high prices prevailing was a natural result arising from the scarcity of fruit, the failure of the crops in so many sections, and this must be regarded as the strongest point that can be made against increased cultivation. We will take Missouri for instance. The bulk of the growers and shippers have shipping facilities, or, are sufficiently near a railroad to ship to distant markets, if local buyers do not purchase, and no excuse can be offered that would justify the orchardist in permitting his fruit to decay in the orchard. Eastern buyers have not only been steady and heavy purchasers for months in the St. Louis market this year as well as last, but have gone into the interior of the State whenever fruit in any quantity could be found, paying at every point such prices as were highly remunerative to the grower. This State had an immense crop of apples last year, and it brought into the State an amount of money that would exceed a wild estimate.

But the local buyers and consumers and Eastern purchasers did not have the field to themselves. Northern operators were all through the State in quest of apples for their home markets. Iowa and Minnesota had a number of buyers here who helped to sustain prices. There was hardly an apple left in the State when the foreign buyers departed. This year the State has also a large supply of fine apples, sufficiently attractive in quality and quantity to call in again the same distant purchasers. The city of St. Louis alone has shipped to Eastern markets during the last month at least 15 cars per day—all Missouri and Illinois fruit, and costing the purchaser in car-load lots \$2.50 to \$3.25 per barrel. Two big apple crops in succession reveals a comparatively new field to Western producers. The fact is disclosed to us by the operations of the past few seasons that Missouri is admirably situated as a producer of supplies where the Northern and Eastern operators meet to bid for her products, and thus insure a steady demand. A good portion of the South also look to us for apples, and Texas has been receiving fruit from the last two months nearly as much as the Eastern markets. We are growing more fruit than we are credited with, but yet not half so much as the facts and prospects warrant.

Admitting that there is a large or full crop of apples throughout the country, and no waiting market is visible, the crop need not be lost. The evaporator is now recognized as an important factor in the development of this industry, and no matter how large the crop, the evaporators will be set up in every fruit section and consume large quantities at 15 to 20 cents a bushel, which must be considered fair for an off year. At home and abroad there are good markets for dried fruit—Europe ordering more freely every year of all grades. The average grower will admit that a crop of apples or peaches every other year, if not often, would pay for the capital and labor involved.

In regard to peaches much of a similar character could be offered, showing that peach culture is becoming very profitable, and when a surplus appears, and it will pay to ship only the finest fruit, the evaporator can be successfully called in to prepare the remaining fruit for a more lucrative market. In

Southern Illinois, where the business of fruit-growing for a livelihood is conducted so successfully, we learn the growers have made money enough to steadily enlarge their fields and orchards. Next year more acres will be covered with large and small fruits than at any time heretofore. The increase the present season has been the largest ever known there. The little town of Alto Pass alone imported and planted out in that vicinity this fall, 17,000 peach trees, in addition to thousands of other trees and plants.

The past season was one of great profit to many of the growers there, who assert they can afford to stand occasional failures. Strawberry fields have been equally widened, and it can be truthfully said that the business is booming in that section. We have in the foregoing enumerated a few points and some facts that may serve to change the views entertained by some parties more or less interested, and we will return to the subject later on with additional information that will convince those that are skeptical that the outlook for fruit-growing is exceedingly bright here and elsewhere.

What is Free Trade?

COL. COLMAN: In your article of Nov. 1, under the caption "What is Free Trade?" I think you are among the number who misunderstand the term; at least it is illogical to call a tariff for revenue free trade. Free trade, to be in harmony with the meaning of the words as applied to anything else, would mean to trade with foreign countries as we trade with other States, without any tax at all. If a majority are in favor of a tariff for revenue, that should be the policy adopted. It is not necessary to confound terms.

You are right when you say that a revenue tariff is equivalent to the keeper of a toll gate, who takes money for the Government, but you can not have a toll gate of that kind without every manufacturing establishment of like goods keeping just such a toll gate and collecting money for private use, if your tariff is only 1 percent. You can not draw a line between two rates of tariff and call one a protective tariff and the other not.

The great sorrow, however, is in his own home, with the companion of his joys and sorrows. There the shadow is the darkest, and in his mother's home this great shadow hides away much of the sunshine. But they are all children of God, and their faith, no doubt, sees beyond this darkness that now is, so that they sorrow not as those who have no hope.

There is a brighter day, when loved ones, who have followed the dear Christ in this life, shall meet again.

St. Louis, Nov. 12, 1883.

Cattle Show?

Considerable is being asked and answered in Eastern papers on this subject, and in the metropolis some good points are being made. The last *New England Farmer* has the following:"In a late number of the *Farmer* the question is asked, 'What is a cattle show?' I will try to answer it according to my observation for many years. I will say that it is a combination of any number of men, many of them with an *Hon.* prefix to their names, city rumsellers, merchants and lawyers, whose farms, bought with the wealth accumulated in other pursuits, are cultivated under the supervision of the foreman of their farm hands, of more agricultural intelligence and experience than themselves. A State society is formed of such material; a show is got up and the gate money levied on the common unassuming farmer, who with his family is let in on foot at the rate of two shillings a head, to promenade the enclosed paradise of cattle, horses, horse-trots and sideshows, while for a shilling more the intolerable swell is let in on wheels, to ride over the crowd if a sharp eye is not kept on him to escape the danger of bruises and soiled clothes, with no eye to enjoy the sight seeing in peace, while the village lawyer who may have raised an extra large potato in his garden, or have a reputed fat horse that never trots entered there, can have all the immunities of the yard and the outside world, to go in and out at pleasure without an additional gate fee."

There may be a good deal of truth in the above, but that is not the way we do things in the West.

What is a Cattle Show?

That well known writer Wm. Housman, of London, writing to the *National Live Stock Journal* on the above subject, has this to say: It would be curious to learn, if it were possible to ascertain, what proportion of heavy investments in young and untried bulls of any breed prove profitable. If the purpose of purchase is exhibition, the risk is considerably less than if stock breeding is the buyer's sole object. A shrewd judge can see in the calf, especially if he sees also its parents, and still more surely if he knew its

Notes-*Correspondence*.

—Can you or some of your readers give us an article on the cultivation and drying of grapes for raisins in central California. It would doubtless be of interest to many of your readers.—L. L. R., Ashland, Ills.

I notice in the RURAL WORLD of 25 October, the name of J. D. Armstrong as a breeder of Angora goats. Will you please give me his address as I wish to correspond with him about his goats.—Yours truly, P. A. S., Blum 70.

—I have about 100 bushels Russian white oats for sale and want you to write me what you can get me for them. Have also about 200 bushels Amber cane seed and want to know what it is worth. Please also write me if there is a mill manufactured in St. Louis that will grind cane seed. I got the idea from the RURAL WORLD that they make flour from the grain. Please answer this in the RURAL.—W. Nichols.

—Please give me the address of John A. Vance, Madison county, Ills. I saw an article in the RURAL WORLD of Oct 25th, in regard to young Holstein cattle that he had at the St. Louis Fair. I would like to correspond with him.—L. H. Gale, Madison Co., Mo.

We cannot give you his address. His card is, or ought to be, in our BREEDERS' DIRECTORY column. All the breeders of the West indeed ought to be there.

—Hon. N. J. Colman: In your 1st of Nov. issue of the RURAL WORLD you refer to C. L. S. Washington, Ark., as being engaged in the gathering and sale of Catalpa Speciosa Seed and you very properly advise him to advertise, but as he had not done so yet, I am at a loss to know how to get a letter to him, unless you "suspend rules" and kindly volunteer by giving me his address in enclosed letter blank. If this is not asking too much please let me know his address and much oblige.—Yours very respectfully. J. V. Cotta, Carroll Co., Ills.

—The North American Review for November, by the liveliness and the sterling worth of the articles it contains, satisfies the requirements of the most exacting reader. Senator H. B. Anthony writes of "Limited Suffrage in Rhode Island" giving incidentally a highly interesting sketch of the early constitutional history of that little Commonwealth, and setting forth the considerations which influenced its people in restricting the exercise of the electoral prerogative. Dr. Norwin Green, President of the Western Union Company, in an article entitled "The Government and the Telegraph," cites the provisions of the Federal Constitution and the determinations of the Supreme Court which appear to debar the General Government from assuming the management of the telegraph lines; and presents statistics designed to prove that the service in this country is both cheaper and more efficient than in any of the countries of Europe where the governments own the lines. The Rev. David N. Utter brings out from oblivion the record of certain alleged atrocious crimes of "John Brown of Osawatomie." There are two scientific articles, namely, "Solar Physics," by Professor Edward Stewart, and "Modern Explosives," by Gen. John Newton. W. H. Mallock contributes "Conversations with a Solitary," an imaginary page-at-arms between a Radical and a Conservative, in which the two opposing theories of government and society are advocated with rare spirit and ingenuity of argument. In "Suggestions in regard to the 'Public Service,'" Green Rauma offers certain facts going to prove that clerks and other employes of the government departments at Washington, even before the passage of the Civil Service act, were in the main both faithful and efficient. Finally, "Dr. Hammond's Estimate of Woman," is reviewed by Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake, Miss Nina Morris, Mrs. Sara A. Underwood and Dr. Clemence S. Lozier. Fifty cents a copy; \$5 a year. Published at 30 Lafayette Place, and sold by newsdealers generally.

Select Music.

We are in receipt from Oliver Ditson & Co., from month to month, of their regularly published series of cheap music. Their latest, "Stray Leaves," comes to hand just now, and many of the RURAL WORLD readers will be glad to get them.

"Stray Leaves," are acceptable, provided they have the autumn colors. Equally so are the well filled music leaves that are sent by Oliver Ditson & Co., the Boston music publishers, as specimens from their month's work in issuing songs and pieces for everybody and his friends.

The attractive list comprises:—Menetto, (Stray Leaves,) (35 cts.) pretty and quaint musical sketch by Brandeis.

Beggar-Student March, (30 cts.) arr from Millocker, by Le Baron.

Princess of the Canaries Galop (30 cts.) Bright arrangement by Le Baron.

No More, (40 cts.) song by Nicola Ferri.

Tarry with me, O my Saviour, (35 cts.) beautiful Solo, Duet and Octet, by M. Laughlin.

When Old Age comes, (40 cts.) Italian and English words. By Tosti.

The Letters we Carved on the Tree, (40 cts.) most attractive ballad, by F. B. Haynes.

Some Grief your looks betray, (35 cts.) Lakme.

No Surrender, (30 cts.) Stirring Song by Barr.

The Horseman.

Dicator.

In our issue of the 8th inst., we inadvertently copied an article stating that the trotting horse Jay-Eye-See, was by Starlite, and as this statement has, to some extent, gone the rounds, we wish to correct the error, as well as say a few words in regard to Dicator, who is the sire of this wonderful colt, and something regarding other famous ones of his get.

He, Dicator, is the only horse living or dead, three of whose get ever obtained records as good as 2:17, or two of whose get ever obtained records as good as 2:15 $\frac{1}{4}$. The horses obtaining these records were the ones named above, Jay-Eye-See, with a 5 year old record of 2:10 $\frac{1}{4}$, and Phallas and Director with 6 year old stallion records of 2:15 $\frac{1}{4}$ and 2:17 respectively. It must be remembered that the best record is that of Maud S., made when she was 7 years old, of 2:10 $\frac{1}{4}$, and that the best stallion record is that of Smuggler, made in his prime, of 2:15 $\frac{1}{4}$. But it is not alone the wonderful speed of these horses that has attracted so much attention, it is that, in addition, they each have all the requisites of first class trotting race horses. They have been the largest winners this season, and their hotly contested races have

proved their ability to come whenever called upon, and to trot the last quarter of the heat with more speed, if necessary, than any quarter of the mile. Nor did they grow stale by such mighty efforts, as is often the case, on the contrary, their last races were among their best performances. They have sense and courage, are stout of limb and wind, and their way of speeding is frictionless and beautiful.

Of course the sire of such horses is the rage and no astonishment was expressed by intelligent horsemen when Maj. H. C. McDowell purchased Dictator at the price of \$25,000, regardless of the fact that the horse was twenty years old. He was purchased to be placed at the head of the Ashland stud, and on historic ground he will pass the remainder of his days.

The one thing more than any other that turned the attention of Kentuckians to the breeding of trotting horses, was the purchase of Mambrino Chief, by Mr. Jas. B. Clay, and his removal to this same farm of Ashland.

That two such great horses should have been domiciled at the home of the great Commander, is a coincidence which leads us to speculate as to which may do the most for the stock of the Blue Grass Region. As much as Mambrino Chief has done for Kentucky, it is reasonable to suppose that Dictator will do more. He is the finer horse, the better bred and the getter of more speed. He has the bony head and the grand eye of the Arabian, with the finish of the stoutest thoroughbred. He was got by Rhydyc's Hambletonian, the greatest sire of trotters, and he is out of a Star mare, (the best cross) she being the best of the Star mares, the dam of Dexter, with his record of 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$, the king of his day, of Alma, 2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$, and Astoria, 2:29 $\frac{1}{4}$ and a trial of 2:23 $\frac{1}{4}$, and this Star mare was out of the McKinstry mare, the dam of Shark, whose record is 2:27 $\frac{1}{4}$. His gait is perfect, and in speed he was pronounced by Col. West, who trained him for awhile, the equal of his great brother, Dexter.

The three best horses of this year, or any year, were gotten by him during the first and second seasons he made in Kentucky, and younger ones are forcing themselves into public notice. As a sire of race horses, his like has never been seen before, and, as the late Stock Record aptly put it, "He is as a sire, among trotters, what Lexington was, among thoroughbreds."

With the superbly bred brood mares at Ashland, Dictator now has a better showing than ever before, and his blood will be sought for generations to come. He will be permitted to serve a limited number of mares besides those of his owner, at \$300, and we are informed that his book is nearly full, although he has not yet been advertised.

California for Horse-Breeding.

—Years as we have written in the past nine years of the great advantages the soil and especially the climate of this Coast present for the breeding and rearing of animals of physical excellence, says the *Breeder and Sportsman*, volumes could be profitably filled on the same topic. At first it was something of a task to convince old Californians of the decided superiority over any other country that we had ever seen, or, in fact, read descriptions of, while the residents of the breeding sections of the East considered the statements made as silly bush.

—The custom of working or exercising horses directly after eating, or feeding after hard work, and before they are thoroughly rested, bating at noon, when both these violations of a natural law are committed;

these are the predisposing causes of pink eye and of most diseases that affect our horses. Keep the horse quiet, dry, warm, and in a pure atmosphere, the nearer outdoor air the better, and stop his feed entirely at first symptoms of disease, and we will speedily recover. It has been demonstrated in tens of thousands of cases in family life, that two meals are not only ample for the hardest and most exhausting labors, physical or mental, but altogether best. The same thing has been fully proved in hundreds of instances with horses, and has never in a single instance failed, after a fair trial to work the best results. An hour's rest at noon is vastly more restoring to a tired animal, whether horse or man, than a meal of any sort, although the latter may prove more stimulating.

—The morning meal given, if possible, early enough for partial stomach digestion before the muscular and nervous systems are called into active play; the night meal offered long enough after work to insure a rested condition of the body; a diet liberal enough, but never excessive; this is the law and gospel of hygiene diet for either man or beast. I have never tried to fatten my horses, for I long ago learned that rat is disease; but I have always found that if a horse does solid work enough he will be fairly plump if he has two sufficient meals. Muscle is the product of work and food; fat may be laid on by food alone. We see, however, plenty of horses that are generally too generously fed, that still remain thin, and show every indication of being under-nourished; dyspepsia is a disease not exclusively to creatures who own or drive horses. But for perfect health and immunity from disease, restriction of exercise must be met by restriction of diet. Horses require more food in cold than in warm weather, if performing the same labor. In case of a warm spell in winter, I reduce their feed more or less, according to circumstances, as surely as I do the amount of fuel consumed. I also adopt the same principle in my diet. The result is, that neither my animal or myself are ever for one moment sick.

—The last number of the *Turf, Field and Farm* has the following interesting notes: Triton, the brother of Trinket, has improved with age, and he commands much attention at Ashland. He is six years old, and promises to make a reputation in the stud. Carrie, who gained a record of 2:24 $\frac{1}{4}$, and who was got by Volunteer, out of a mare by Seely's American Star, has by her side a very handsome bay colt seven weeks old, by King Rene. It was put through its paces for the benefit of Mr. George Bush and the visiting delegation, and the manner in which it handled itself excited praise. It will make a trotter. Prominent among the two year old fillies at Ashland is Elfrida, by Harold, out of Besty Trotwood (dam of Phallas, 2:15 $\frac{1}{4}$), by Clark-Chief. She is a large, rangy bay, with fine head and neck, and excellent trotting action. She will be reserved for the stud. In the spring she will be united with Dicator the sire of Phallas.

—Several of the renowned brood mares at Woodburn are entering the barren stage of life. Belle, the dam of Belmont and McCurdy's Hambletonian, is one of these. She is from the loins of Mambrino Chief, and is twenty-six years old. She has been fruitful fourteen times, and one of her sons is responsible for such great performers as Nutwood,

autumnal showers. Then there must be provision. Not the weary winter months of the East, when the hay mows and the granaries are depleted by six months of frosts and snows, but for sixty days, perhaps, while the warm sunshine of January and February is putting substance into the fast-growing plants, perfecting the organization so as to make fitting pabulum for the expected foals. California is the only country we are acquainted with that will permit the abrogation of grain without serious injury resulting.

Not that we recommend a curtailment of rations, especially on those farms that have been denuded of the native cereals, as the old Yorkshire motto, "that half a horse goes down his throat," is just as true in California as in less favored countries, and with all the advantages that nature has so bountifully bestowed, failure will follow negligence.

There is another point in the article copied from the *Cat* which will require more space than can be given now. That is the absence of flies and gnats. There are portions of California that are practically free from these pests, and this has a greater weight than imagination.

Horse Notes.

The old pacer Longfellow was enjoying a life up at the Oakland track some years ago. In the daytime he ran in a small lot adjoining the course. The inclosure was about 150 yards of the inside track, reaching from the judges' stand along the home stretch. There was a pacing race and trot the same afternoon. When the pacers were soaring Longfellow would "slack" back with them, wheel when they did, and lead the field as far as the confining fence would permit. When the trotters started he was contented to watch them, without any desire to take part in the fight.

Which is the faster gait, the pace or the trot? There has been much discussion of this question; and the stronger arguments are in favor of the latter motion being conducive of greater speed. The proportion of horses trained for pacing that have beaten 2:25, for instance, is much greater than that of those that have been trained for trotting, and no amount of reasoning can overcome this stubborn fact. The trot is preferred because it is more fashionable, and because there is something in the movement of pacers which renders them, as a rule, bad breakers, and these considerations appear to be the foundation of the preference to the trot.

A strong illustration of the effects of special treatment and regular feed on the size and muscular development of the animal is the case of Mr. Robert Bonner's bay colt, Chester, foaled 1881, brother to Majolica, 2:17 broken within a year. He now stands 16 hands, and trotted a quarter the past summer in 44 seconds. On the other hand, Majolica grew up without speed or promise, and was so small and scruffy when Murphy took him in hand a year ago last spring that he was nicknamed "The Goat." Since then regular training, feeding and care have brought speed, muscle and vigor beyond what Nature first imparted, but he is still under 15 hands high, a nest, slapping going young horse, furnished with the blood like symmetry of his sire.

Dr. C. E. Page gives the *Medical and Surgical Journal* some suggestions on keeping horses in health, which are not only in agreement with the best teaching, but sustained by his own and others experience:

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The Home Circle.

"GROWING OLD."

Yes, dear, you may speak the words boldly; I certainly am growing old; Time's fingers, with noiseless persistence, Are surely tightening their hold.

The face that looks out from my mirror Is wrinkled and saddened, in sooth; And I, tempest-tossed and storm-driven, Have lost the bright tintings of youth.

The future, once seeming with promise, Holds no longer pledges for me;

I look no more up to the mountain— The valley is all that I see.

I grieve not, nor shrink from the night-time, Life's burdens have fretted me sore;

My pathway has been shadowed— Why grieve when the journey is o'er?

I lift my tired eyes to the heavens, And think with a sigh of content,

That soon will all heartache be over— The "veil of the temple" be rent.

And I, who have suffered and sorrowed, Have striven with pitiless care—

Have only a passionate longing To taste the sweet rest "over there."

The promise of "rest for the weary" Hangs beacon-like over the gloom,

And Faith, like a star in the storm-wake, Points always to visions of "Home."

And though to the spring comes brightness, The 'summers, her fruitage may bring,

Lo! autumn hath gathered all harvests

To lay at the foot of her King!

IDYLL.

Marshall, Mo., Nov. 1883.

TO THE MOTHERS OF THE HOME CIRCLE.

Sublimest thoughts, were passing through my mind,

Fair beauty's grandest thought, so well combined.

Now dearest baby not so plaintive cry,

My verse so nice, 'twill critis' art defy.

The critics oft so little understand,

The work of others, is their chief demand.

About all things, so wise they flippant speak,

You'd think that polished folly was their

freak.

Now baby dear, why not be cosy still?

Already twice has married poetic quill.

Poor baby could not understand th' appea,

Nor well a mother's thoughts esthetic feel.

Not yet had learnt to brest the jars of fame,

But still had learnt its wants to loud proclaim.

Oh dear! what trouble do these babies give,

Poetic thoughts with them, so hard they live.

Sweet mother! humor baby's present needs,

'Twill wiser grow, as daily life proceeds.

You once were young, a mother's care you had,

Quick! sooth poor baby's pain,—"tis now so glad!

For self alone, we surely were not made,

To others' wants, our care we often grade.

In this we do th' Almighty's will obey,

In mansions bright, He'll soon our griefs repay.

REV. G. A. WATSON.

A CORRECTION.

In my answer of Nov. 1st, I quote from Frank, Oct. 11th: He further says, "Were this guest to go staggering along the street, then would he violate the civil rights of the citizen?" I ought to have continued in Frank's words: "And yet our friend can't see any use in a law to forbid the violation of the rights of a citizen." As already said, I pronounce this a downright falsehood.

REV. GEO. A. WATSON.

THE BROKEN HEARTHSTONE.

One day, while wand'ring through the field, My foot struck something hard; But thinking naught about it then, I still kept going forward.

But when my walk that day was done And coming back that night, By chance I struck the self-same stone, Which stopped my thinking quite.

And stooping to investigate, My curious eyes espied

A piece of broken hearthstone, Which the grass did almost hide.

When I discovered what it was, My mind then gave a turn; And strayed far back into the past, To where the fire did burn.

Upon this broken hearthstone, Now cast by as of no good, Though it could tell some curious tales, If speak it only could.

Perhaps 'twould tell about the time When poverty stood around, And grinned upon the children who Now sleep beneath the mound.

Or when they gathered round the fire On cold and frosty nights—

Did I say fire? Ah, it was such As only chills and blights;—

Or how they told each other tales And legends of the past;

Or how old Santa Claus came down To cheer, in times gone past.

Or it might tell of other times, When fortune blandly smiled,

Upon the favored inmates, Who comforts round them piled.

But, poor or rich, this stone could tell Of times both sad and merry;

When some were in the churchyard laid, Or some resolved to marry.

But let us hope that those who're gone, And in the churchyard laid,

Were ready for that last great change,

Their peace with God made.

DEAR COL.: May I, another stranger, knock for admission at the door of the Home Circle, and bring some poetry with me? I did not compose the poetry but my sister did, so I will come in for part of the "honor" if it is printed, won't I? I think if a stone from the hearth around which the Home Circle gathers could speak, it would have some very interesting tales to tell, of the compliments and pleasant words exchanged, of the terrible but bloodless wars between Bon Ami and some of the other "big guns."

I have been an interested reader of this department for a year and a half, and often have I thought of writing; but dared not for fear of getting struck when so many missiles were flying. If I am allowed a quiet little corner I may come again, as there is nobody else writing from Canada, and it is not fair to let you "Yankees" have it all your own way. I am a country maiden living in the backwoods in a log shanty; but the RURAL finds its way here, and is ever gladly welcomed. But I must wait and see if I am wanted before I say so much.

TIZBEE.

Comber, Ont., Can.

Why of course come again and welcome.

It is of Others this Time that Bon Ami Writes.

DEAR CIRCLE: It is my fate or fortune to be lucky. It was by an accident that I escaped a discussion with Boadicea. When he obscurely made his appearance in the Circle, I took him to be a weak, puny, sickly sort of fellow and concluded to pluck his plumage for the amusement of my friends. I would surely have done so, had I not misplaced the RURAL and forgotten how to spell the fellow's name. This being so, I determined to give him a respite. At the time I thought a critic before writing a lampoon should at least learn to spell his author's name. However, I am now getting something over my scruples, seeing that such a difficulty does not at all embarrass Fred and one or two other critics of the Circle. Another reason why I was anxious to get his name spelled right was that he charged me with not knowing how to spell—and he proved it, too. I lied—did my level best—to write *presumptions* (please remember that I don't use the word here as an adverb). The word was printed *presumption*. This was due to the fact that the little girl I get to correct my compositions was off duty. Boady discovered the error in two weeks, and he was kind enough to let this light into my benighted understanding. "There aint no such word as *presumptions* in English." Boady's spelling is as good as that of a school girl of thirteen, and he is doubtless proud (with good reason) that he has, after arduous labor, succeeded in getting this far in pursuit of learning. I congratulate him. And I am happy to say he does much to interest in the work, and could converse on it 'till the peep o' day. Please give us your manner of opening school the first day.

Uncle John, come again, and give us some more sound sense.

Schoolma'am, I wish that all of the young men of the nation, just starting out in life would read your article written for a friend on his 21st birthday. I believe that it would be the means of aiding many of them to start right, choosing the right road and sticking to it. When men start anywhere they want to get on the right road so as to reach their destination. Why can't they do this in the higher paths of life? TOM.

Vandalia, Ills.

Wendall. Tom. Come again. But isn't that a strange nom de plume for a schoolmarm?

One of "Life's Lessons."

A few days ago, a little girl who often visits me, stood before the pictured face of my "Little Blue Eyes," and, after long-looking, she asked, "Is this the picture of your little boy that's dead?" "Yes, dear," I answered. "Were you not awfully sorry when he died?" Again I answered, "Yes, dear." For while she stood silent; then, softly, "Well, some day, we must all die; and every one of us will leave some one who is awfully sorry," she said. For a moment all the old agony of that terrible parting time came back to my aching heart, and I dared not speak, lest the little one, new to such grief, should see my suffering. But, when she went out into the sunshine, I sat down before the dear shadowed face and wept, as only bereaved ones may weep. After the storm of tears had somewhat spent itself, I thought how true it all is, how full of "awfully sorry" people is this great, gloomy world! How many, whose faces are but the masks to hide the heart from the outer world, are bitterly grieving and crying over some dear, dead thing! How many hearts are but sepulchres—united, it may be, and twined about with clambering vines and blossoming roses—which are yet filled with the dead and perished idols that have gone out of their lives, leaving only the bitterness of desolation, and the calmness of despair.

Between the sledge-hammer licks of Mrs. Watson and Lloyd Guyot, Fred and Josiah are having a hard time. Lloyd thinks that in order to prove that they are not fools, Fred and Josiah should write some poems—some very long poems; and Mr. Watson intimates that an ordinary life of three score and ten would not suffice for them to write poems long enough to clear up all doubts as to their sanity.

Bess, we accept you as a tonic, and I give to the health of "the American girl." You write charmingly enough, and about as well as your sister.

Albee says that Vermont legislators are called jackasses. That is right. You see they are elected to represent their constituents.

Mr. Watson and I agree as to one thing: Idyl's last poem is her best. This is matter for congratulation, as it shows she is gaining instead of losing ground. The recent poems are of a higher order and are a credit to the RURAL WORLD. I am sure the editor must be proud of them. I will venture to say Guyot enjoyed them himself. If he spoke contrary to his judgment, it was because he was indulging his propensity for fun. I like to meet a funny man. Some of us have to affect a smile in order to drive back a tear. Share not your grief with others, for they have as much of their own as they can bear.

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E. A. Schoolmarm.

The Stock Pards.

Weekly Review of the Live Stock Market.

The receipts and shipments for the week ending at 11 a. m. to-day were as follows:

RECEIPTS.

	Horses	Cattle. Hogs. Sheep. mules.
Thursday.....	235	230
Friday.....	1124	1365
Saturday.....	530	1555
Monday.....	721	4036
Tuesday.....	766	4345
Wednesday.....	1588	6915
Total.....	5,920	25,641
Last week.....	6,711	17,745

SHIPMENTS.

	Horses	Cattle. Hogs. Sheep. mules.
Thursday.....	352	334
Friday.....	82	957
Saturday.....	679	273
Monday.....	776	992
Tuesday.....	215	1099
Wednesday.....	688	919
Total.....	3,528	4,140
Last week.....	2,415	9,861

HORSES.

	Horses	Cattle. Hogs. Sheep. mules.
Thursday.....	352	334
Friday.....	82	957
Saturday.....	679	273
Monday.....	776	992
Tuesday.....	215	1099
Wednesday.....	688	919
Total.....	3,528	4,140
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